XLVIII

A True and Impartial

ACCOUNT

Of the

Examinations and Confeſsions

Of ſeveral Execrable

CONSPIRATORS

Againſt the

King & His Government

IN

SCOTLAND.

BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA

Together with the

PROCLAMATION

Iſſued upon that Occaſion by the LORDS of His MAJESTIES Privy-Council of that KINGDOM.

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A True and Impartial Account of the Examinations and Confeſsions of ſeveral Execrable Conſpirators againſt the King and His Government in Scotland.

Edenburgh, the 13th of November, 1680.

In Preſence of the Lords of the Privy-Council.

James Skene, Brother to the Laird of *Skene*, being Examined, If he was with the Rebels at *Bothwel-Bridge*? Anſwers, He knows not who were Rebels, but ſays he was not at *Bothwel-Bridge*, nor at *Airdſmoſs*; and ſays, That he thinks thoſe Perſons were not Rebels, for they were thoſe that were in defence of Gods Cauſe, which he had honourably engaged them to.

Denies that he was at *Torwoodhead*-Conventicle, where the Excommunication of the King was uſed.

He owns and juſtifies the Proclamation at *Rutherglen*, and the Burning of the Kings Acts of Parliament there, becauſe they were againſt the Covenant.

He declares that he doth not own the King's Authority in things unlawful, in thoſe things that are [illegible] the Acts of Parliament ſince the Kings Reſtauration that are made againſt the Coventnt.

Declares he owns the Excommunication againſt the King uſed by *Cargill*, and thinks the Reaſons of it juſt.

Denies that he knows where the Excommunication was contrived.

Denies

Denies that he knows any thing of a New Riſing, but thinks the People of God are always ready for Defenſive Arms; and that he owns himſelf as one of them, and that the Arms he had about him were for defence of himſelf and the Goſpel, and that he had reſolved to give Teſtimony for the Cauſe.

Declares he ſaw Mr. *Donald Cargill* on *Thurſday* laſt in a Houſe of the *Weſtbow*, but knows not the Houſe, yet thinks he might know it if he were brought to it.

Refuſes to declare who were preſent with *Cargill* and him, nor will he tell how many there were of them, but ſays that it is about half a year ſince he frequented his Company.

Declares that he thinks the Killing of the Archbiſhop of St. *Andrews* was no Murther, and that the Actors thereof were upon their Duty.

Being Interrogated, If he thinks it lawful to Kill any of the Kings Councellors or Souldiers? Anſwers, That he thinks there is a declared War betwixt thoſe who ſerve the Lord, and thoſe who ſerve the King againſt the Covenant, and that it is lawful to Kill them in defence of the Goſpel.

That he thinks, that the King being Excommunicated, and there being now a lawful declared War againſt him upon the account of the breach of the Covenant, it is lawful to Kill him.

Being asked, If it was lawful to Kill the King if he were paſſing along in a Coach as the Archbiſhop of St. *Andrews* was? Declares he had anſwered that before in the former General, and that it was lawful to Kill all that were in oppoſition to the Covenant.

After reading of the foreſaid Interrogatories and his Anſwers, and being deſired to be deliberate in what he had ſaid before he Signed the ſame, he anſwered, That he was reſolved upon it freely to give his Teſtimony.

Signed thus,

James Skene.

Edenburgh, the 13th *of November*, 1680.

James Skene before deſigned being brought in preſence of the Lords Commiſſioners of Juſticiary ſitting in Judgment, and his ſaid Confeſſion being read unto him, he did renew, adhere to, and abide at the ſame, and every particular thereof, as is before ſet down; and ſays, He thinks it his honour ſo to do.

Signed thus,

James Skene.

Atteſted by the Lords Commiſſioners of Juſticiary.

Archibald

ARchibald *Steward* in *Borrowſtonneſs*, being Interrogated, Confeſſes that he was iu the Rebellion at *Airdſmoſſe*, with Mr. *Cameron*, and had a Sword and two Piſtols.

Denies that he was at *Bothwell-Bridge*, but confeſſes he was with *Cameron* frequently before that time.

Declares he has been frequently with Mr. *Cargill*, and was preſent at the Excommunication of the King and his Royal Highneſs, the Lord Chancellor, the Earl of *Linlithgow*, General *Dalzel*, and the Kings Advocate at the Conventicle at *Torwood*, and he himſelf was there in Arms.

Declares he ſaw Mr. *Cargill* laſt within theſe two or three days in *Edenburgh*; Being asked in what Houſe? He anſwers it is a Caſe of Conſcience, he cannot tell it.

Declares he owns, That the King, his Royal Highneſs, and the other Perſons aforeſaid, were juſtly Excommunicated for the Breach of the Covenant, and the other Reaſons expreſt in the Excommunication.

Denies that he knows any new Deſign of riſing in Arms.

Declares he diſowns the Kings Authority, and thinks he is not obliged to obey him, becauſe he has broken the Covenant. And being Interrogated, if now that the King is Excommunicated for Breach of the Covenant it be lawful to Kill him? Declares he deſires to conſider of it before he Anſwer.

Decclares that he thinks it was lawful to kill the Arch-Biſhop of *St. Andrews*, becauſe he ſays he had betrayed the *Kirk*.

Being Interrogated if he thinks it lawful to kill the Kings Counſellors or Servants? Deſires time to adviſe before he Anſwer.

Confeſſes he has ſeen *Balfour* of *Kinloch*, ſince the killing of the Arch-Biſhop, but would not tell when nor where.

Declares he owns the Proclamation againſt the King at *Sanchar*, and owns the burning of the Kings Acts of Parliament againſt the Covenant at *Rutherglen* as a Duty.

That he owns and juſtifies the new Covenant, called, *Cargil's Covenant*.

Being interrogated if he knows of any Skipper or Seamen that has lately brought home any Arms or Ammunition, or any Commiſſion given to that effect? Denies that he knows any.

Signed thus,

Archibald Steward.

Archibald Stewart before deſigned, being brought in preſence of the Lord Juſtice Clerk, and the remanent Commiſſioners of Juſticiary ſitting in Judgment, he doth renew and abide at his whole Confeſſion, emitted by him in the preſence of the Lords of His Majeſties Privy Council.

Signed thus,

Archibald Stewart.

Atteſted by the Lords Commmiſſioners of Juſticiary.

In preſence of the Lords of the Privy Council the ſame Day.

John Spreull Druggiſt and Merchant in *Glaſgow*, being Interrogated, Confeſſes that he was in the Rebellion at *Bothwell-Bridge*, and was in Arms.

Confeſſes he knows and is acquainted with Mr. *Donald Cargill*, but denies that he was at *Torwoodhead Conventicle.*

Being interrogated if he owns the Excommunication of the King to be juſt? refuſes to anſwer.

Denies that he keeps any Correſpondence with People in *Holland*, or brought home any Arms or Ammunition from thence.

Denies that he knows any new Deſign of riſing in Arms.

Being Interrogated if he owns the Declaration at *Sanchar*, diſowning the Kings Authority? denies to anſwer.

Being interrogated when he ſaw Mr. *Donald Cargill?* Confeſſes he has ſeen and been in company with him, but will not tell when: He ſays it was in *Edenburgh*, but will not tell where.

Being asked if he owns the Kings Authority or not? Anſwer he owns all lawful Authority. Being asked if the Council here ſitting was a lawful Authority? Refuſes to Anſwer.

Being asked if he thought the Killing of the Arch-Biſhop of *St. Andrews* was a Murder? He refuſes to anſwer thereto.

Theſe Interrogatories and Anſwres being Read unto him, he refuſes to Sign the ſame.

Edenbugh,

Edenburgh, Novemb. 15. 1680.

In preſence of the Committee of Council appointed to Examine Archibald Steward, *and others, by Torture, in reſpect of the former Examinations before the Council.*

Archibald Steward Priſoner, being Examined by Torture in the Bootes, Confeſſes that upon Thurſday laſt he was in company (in *John Baird*'s Houſe) with Mr. *Donald Cargill*, where was preſent alſo with him one Mr. *James Boog*, but declares he knows not where he dwells.

Being eaſed of the Torture, and interrogated if they had any Deſign to take any Mans life? Confeſſes that in general they had a mind to kill any ſhould oppoſe them: and confeſſes that they had a deſign to kill one *Thomas Kenniway* in the Guard, Mr. *John Park* Miniſter at *Carrin*, and Mr. *James Hamilton* Miniſter of *Borrowſtonneſs*: and the reaſon why they were to kill *Kennoway*, was becauſe he had taken ſeveral of their Party; and the two Miniſters, becauſe they had been inſtrumental to diſcover Mr. *Donald Cargill* at *Queens-Ferry*, and the killing of Mr. *Hall*.

Confeſſes that *Henderſon* in *North-Ferry* was alſo preſent with *Cargill* in *Baird*'s Houſe upon Thurſday.

Declares that Mr. *James Boog* was in Arms, and ordinarily attends *Cargill*, and was in Arms at the Conventicle of *Torwood*, where the King and others were Excommunicated.

Delcares that if they could have gotten any of the Biſhops or Judges in their hands, they would have killed them.

Confeſſes he himſelf was at that Conventicle at *Torwood*, where were preſent *John Gib* and another of the ſame Name and Sirname, both Seamen in *Borrowſtounneſs*; and that *Robert Hammilton*, Son of Duke *Hammilton*'s Chamberlain, was alſo at the ſame Conventicle.

Confeſſes he was at a Conventicle about a fortnight ſince at *Largo-Law*, where *Cargill* Preached; and there were preſent the two *Henderſon*'s that were at the killing of the Arch-Biſhop, as alſo the two *Gibs*, and *Robert Hammilton* already mentioned.

Edenburgh,

Edenburg, Novemb. 16. 1680.

THe Lords of His Majeſties Privy Council having by ſeveral clear Teſtimonies found, that they have very good reaſon to believe there is a Principle of Murdering His Majeſty, and thoſe under Him, for doing His Majeſties Service, and a Deſign of Subverting the Government both of Church and State, entertained and carried on by the Phanaticks, and particularly by Mr. *Donald Cargill*, Mr. *Robert Mecquar*, and others their Complices; and that *John Spruell*, and *Robert Hammilton* have been in acceſſion thereto. They ordain the ſaid *John Spreull*, and *Robert Hammilton*, now Priſoners, to be ſubjected to the Torture upon ſuch Interrogatories as relate to theſe three Points, of which they have good reaſon to believe they can give much light and diſcovery.

I. *By what Reaſon and Means this Murdering Principle is taught and carried on, who were Acceſſory to the Contrivance of Murdering, and who were to be Murdered, and alſo as to the Lord* St. Andrew's *Murder?*

II. *If there was any new Rebellion intended, by what Means it was to be carried on, and who were to bring home the Arms, or if any be already bought or brought, and by whom, or who were the Contrivers and Promoters of the late Rebellion at* Bothwell-Bridge?

III. *Who are their Correſpondents abroad and at home, particularly at* London *or elſewhere, and what they know of bringing home or diſperſing Seditious Books and Pamphlets? And ſuch particular Interrogatories as relate to theſe Generals.*

And

And the ſaid Lords do hereby give full Power and Commiſſion to the Earls of *Argyle*, *Linlithgow*, *Perth*, and *Queensberry*, the Lords *Roſſe*, Treaſurer Depute, Regiſter, Advocate, Juſtice Clerk, General *Dalzell*, *Collintoune* and *Haddo*, to call the ſaid *John Spreull* and *Robert Hamilton*, and to Examine them in the Torture upon the Interrogatories aforeſaid, and ſuch other particular Interrogatories as they ſhall think pertinent relating to the forſaid general Heads, and to report the ſame to the Council.

Signed thus,

Ch. Maitland. I. P. D.

Edenburgh, Novemb. 16. 1680.

ARchibald *Steward* being again called before the Committee, and being interrogated when and where theſe Murdering Deſigns were contrived?

Declares that he himſelf was not privy to thoſe Deſigns, but that *John Murray*, and *William Cutle*, Seamen in *Borrowſtonneſs*, told the Declarent that it was their deſign to kill all that were againſt them who came in their way, and that Mr. *Donald Cargill* in his Preachings adviſed them to theſe Murdering Deſigns.

Being interrogated if he knows *John Spreull*? He declares he knows him, but doth not remember where he ſaw him firſt, having ſeen him ſo often. That about half a year ſince, he ſaw *Spreull* in *Holland* in the company of *James Thomſon*, who lives there, and in the company of Mr. *Meegnes*, and Mr. *Robert Elwaning*.

Being interrogated if at any time he was in company with Mr. *Donald Cargill*, when *John Spreull* was preſent? He denies that he was.

Confeſſes he ſaw *John Balfour*, called *Burley*, in *Holland*, in company of *John Spreull*, where their Diſcourſe was about Religion, and Caſes of Conſcience, but did not remember any particular Caſes were treated of concerning their Murdering Principles.

Confeſſes that in Winter laſt (he remembers) he ſaw *John Spreull* in *John Gib* elder his Houſe, where were alſo preſent *John Gib* the younger, *James Skene*, and one *Ann Stewart*, but does not remember that *Cargill* and *Spreull* were together at that meeting.

Confeſſes he knows Mr. *George Barclay*, one of the Miniſters, but it is a Twelvemonth ſince he ſaw him.

Confeſſes that upon Sabbath-day was eight days, he was at a Conventicle in the Fields in the *Moors* above *Falkirk*, about a

mile and half from *Falles*, where were preſent the two *Gibs*, one *John Henderſon*, and *James Ruſſel* in *Eſſe*, Mr. *Donald Cargill* having Preached, and there were 13 or 14 men in Arms.

Declares that about a quarter of a year ſince, or thereby, he ſaw *John Sprull* in company of Mr. *John Dickſon* (now a Priſoner in the *Baſſe*) in his Houſe in *Edenburgh*, where the Deponent was alſo preſent, and heard ſome diſcourſe betwixt them concerning Mr. *Mecquar* in *Holland*, and heard *Sprull* ſay, that Mr. *Mecquar* was ſorry that ſome of their Party had refuſed to hear Mr. *Robert Fleeming*.

Declares the occaſion of his going to *Dickſon's* Houſe was to viſit *Dickſon*, having been ſometimes in uſe ſo to do.

Declares the Perſon that acquainted him that Mr. *Donald Cargill* was in *Baird's* Houſe upon Thurſday laſt, was either Mr. *James Boog* or *Margaret Anderſon*, who ſtays in a Womans Houſe below the *Weigh-houſe*, who is called Mrs. *Henderſon*.

Signed thus,

Archibald Stewart.

[Atteſted by *Ch. Maitland L. P. D. Com.*

Edenburgh, Novemb. 17. 1680.

John Potter, late Servant to the Lord *Cardroſe*, being examined 1. whether or not he owns and juſtifies the Declaration in *Sanch.r?* Declares he owns and juſtifies it; and the double thereof being read unto him, he owned the ſame.

Confeſſes he was preſent at a Field-Conventicle near to *Carnwath* Sunday was a fortnight, where *Cargill* Preached. But denies that he was at the Conventicle at *Torwood*.

Being queſtioned if he was at *Bothwel-Bridge* and *Aircſmoſſe*? He refuſes to anſwer.

Denies that he was at the Murder of the Arch-Biſhop of St. *Andrews*.

Being interrogated if he owns the King to be King? He declares he owns no Authority that is againſt the Law of God, and he thinks the Authority now exerciſed is againſt the Law of God, and that the King having broken the Covenant, he owes no Obedience to Him.

There being a Paper produced of the nature of a Bond and Combination, Relative to the Declaration at *Rutherglen*, diſclaim-

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ing the Declaration at *Hamilton*, especially because it takes in the Kings Interest, from which they say they are loosed by the Kings Perfidy and Covenant-breaking, &c. which wants a date, and is Subscribed by *Mr. Richard Cameron*, Mr. *Thomas Douglas*, *John Potter*, and divers others; Declares he owns that Paper, and the whole Contents of it; and declares that the Name *John Potter* subjoined to it, is his Subscription, and that the same was Signed in a *Moor* near to *Galloway* in Summer last.

He confesses the truth of all this, but refuses to Sign it; therefore it is Signed by the Committee of Council, *viz.* the Earl of *Linlithgow*, the Earl of *Perth*, The Lord *Rosse*, the Lord Treasurer Depute, the Lord Register, and Lieutenant-General *Dalzel*.

Here follows the Tenour of the Bond of Combination contained in the said *John Potter* his Examination.

WE *Under-Subscribers Bind and Oblige our selves to be faithful to God, and to be true to one another, and to all others that shall join with us in adhering to the* Rutherglen Testimony, *and disclaiming the* Hamilton Declaration, *chiefly because it takes in the Kings Interest, which we are loosed from by reason of his Perfidy and Covenant-breaking both to the most High God, and the People over whom he was set, upon the Terms of his propagating the main end of the Covenants, to wit, The Reformation of Religion; and instead of that, Usurping to himself the Royal Prerogative of* Jesus Christ, *and incroaching upon the Liberties of the Church, and so stating Himself in opposition both to* Jesus Christ *himself the Mediator and the Free-Government of his House; As also in disowning and protesting against the Reception of the Duke of* York, *a professed Papist, and whatever else has been done in this Land (which was given to the Lord) in prejudice of our Covenanted and universally Sworn to Work of Reformation. And although (as the Lord who searcheth the Hearts knows) we be for Government and Governors both Civil and Ecclesiastick, such as the Word of God, and our Covenants allow; Yet by this, we disown the present Magistrates who openly and avowedly are doing still what lies in them for destroying utterly our Work of Reformation from Popery, Prelacy, Erastianism, and other Heresies and Errors. And by this we declare also, that we are not any more to own Ministers indulged, and such as drive at a sinful Union with them; nor are we to join any more with Ministers or Professors of any Rank that are guilty of any of the Defections of this time, until they give satisfaction proportionably to the Scandal or Offence they have given,*

Subscribed

Subscribed by *Thomas Douglas* Minister of the Gospel, *Ri. Cameron* Minister of the Gospel, *Robert Dick*, *Alexander Gordon* of *Greenock*, *Wil. Stewart*, *David Pierie*, *James Stewart*, *Robert Stewart*, *John Patterson*, *John Power*, *James Gibbison*, *John Hamilton*, *James Edward*, *John Mundy*, *J. Vallance*, *Thomas Campbell*, *John Crichtoun*, *John Gemmill*, *John Malcolm*, *Patrick Gemmill*, *John Wilson*, *Samuel Mushmichael*, *Joseph Thomson*, *Michael Cameron*, *John Fouller*, *James Mushmichael*.

Edenburgh, Novemb. 19. 1680.

In presence of the Committee.

Robert Hamilton being called before the Committee, and Examined upon several Interrogatories (relating to the three general Heads already mentioned) before he was put to the Torture, and particularly when he saw Mr. *Donald Cargill*, where and what past amongst them, or who were present at *Torwood-head Conventicle*? He refuses to answer. Being put in the Torture and questioned before striking, he again refused to answer; and having received the Torture, and being loosed from it, and examined again, would make no answer. Having the second time received the Torture, he would not make answer; and after a considerable space having continued in the Torture, he was ordered to be loosed.

Here

Here followeth the Proclamation Iſſued by the Privy-Council upon this Occaſion.

CHARLES by the Grace of God, King of *Great Britain*, *France*, and *Ireland*, Defender of the Faith, &c. To

Our Lyon King at Arms, his Brethren Heraulds, Macers of Our Privy-Council, Purſevants or Meſſengers at Arms, Our Sheriffs in that part, conjunctly and ſeverally, ſpecially conſtituted, Greeting. For as much as ſince the extraordinary Mercy of God in Our wonderful Reſtauration, We have taken all care to preſerve Our Subjects in Peace, and the Proteſtant Religion in its Purity, by ſuch wholſom Laws as at the deſire, and with the conſent of Our Parliaments have been Enacted: Yet ſuch hath been the impious and unwearied Attempts of a Schiſmatical and Ungovernable Party of Our undutiful Subjects to diſturb the former, and to overturn the latter, that they have often engaged themſelves in open Inſurrections, and avowed Rebellions againſt Us and Our Authority, pretending to found theſe their Rebellions upon their Treaſonable Covenants. And particularly after the horrid and cruel Murther of the late Archbiſhop of St. *Andrews*, a violent Rebellion was commenced in the Year 1679, which was declared by them who raiſed it to be undertaken and carried on for promoting the Ends of the ſaid Seditious Covenants. After

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the ſuppreſſing of the which Rebellion, by the Bleſſing of God upon Our Arms, ſuch was Our Princely Clemency, as by ſolemn Acts of Grace, not only to Pardon and Indemnifie the Guilty, but even to indulge them to keep Houſe-Conventicles upon the eaſie Terms and Conditions contained in Our Proclamation of the date at *Whitehall*, the 29th of *June* 1672. Whereby We might reaſonably have expected, that their Minds being raſed, they might have been brought, if not to a Regular and Dutiful Obedience to Our Laws, yet to a Quiet and Peaceable Submiſſion to Our Government. Notwithſtanding whereof, and of Our Gracious Indemnities, Favours and Indulgences, which have been as often renewed as their inſolencies, Murthers and Treaſons have been repeated, ſuch hath been the perverſeneſs of ſome Turbulent and Fanatical Perſons, that many of them continue and perſiſt (according to their old Dangerous Principles) not only to obſerve and frequent Seditious Field-Conventicles, (which as Our Laws have declared, ſo in experience have they been found to be the Rendevouſes of Rebellion, their Inſurrections againſt Us and Our Authority in the Years 1666, and 1679, having been nothing elſe but ſo many running and continued Field-Conventicles) but alſo having together with the Fear of God ſhaken off the ſenſe of their Allegiance unto Us, and the reverence and regard they owe to Our Laws and Government, have entred into an Execrable Plot and Conſpiracy to Murther Our Royal Perſon, Our dear and only Brother, with Our Chief Miniſters of State, Our Privy-Councellors and Biſhops, and all ſuch as are employed in any Truſt or Authority under Us, to ſubvert Our Monarchy and Government, to deſtroy this Proteſtant Church with its Officers and Miniſters, to introduce a new Model of Civil and Eccleſiaſtick Government, and to alter and innovate the Fundamental Laws of this Our Antient Kingdom;

dom; Being prepared and instructed to this Hellish Conspiracy by those Treasonable Pamphlets, Intituled, *Naphtali*, *Jus Populi*, *The Apologetick Narration*, &c. Whereby they have been Taught to take Arms against Us, as being loosed from their Allegiance, and Impowered by the mistaken Example of *Phinehas* to Kill all such as differed from, and opposed their Covenants, and thereby allowing not only open Rebellions, but (which is more terrible) even private Murthers and Assassinations; And upon which they have proceeded to Wound, Rob, and Assassinate Our Orthodox and Protestant Ministers meerly for Preaching Protestant and Loyal Doctrine, and in Cold Blood (with a Cruelty exceeding that of Heathens) to Murther the late Venerable Primate of this Our Kingdom, as also Our Subjects for Levying the Supply granted by Law unto Us: Of which Hellish Plot and Conspiracy we have sufficient and demonstrative Evidence, particularly from their Prodigious and Treasonable Covenant found with Mr. *Donald Cargill*, (one of their most Seditious Preachers), on the third day of *June* last; Wherein they declare Us an Usurper, and the Devils Vicegerent, and that the Lawes and Acts of Our Parliaments were Invasions and Incroachments upon JESUS CHRIST, and that they would set up New Rulers to Govern by the Judicial Law of *Moses*; From their Treasonable Declaration affixed to the Market-Crosls, and other Places (of Our Burgh of *Sanchar*, upon the 14th of *June*), wherein they disown Us to be their King, calling themselves the Representatives of the True Presbyterian and Covenanted People of *Scotland*, and declaring an open War against Us, and all Our Loyal and Dutiful Subjects; From a most Treasonable Band and Combination found amongst the Papers of that Arch-Traytor and Rebel *Richard Cameron* at his Death at *Airdsmoss*, wherein they declare Us an Usurper, and themselves loosed from their Alle-

Allegiance unto Us, becauſe We will not promote the Ends of their Seditious Covenants; Which Impious Bond is Signed by *Thomas Douglas*, pretended Miniſter of the Goſpel, *Cameron* Brother to the ſaid Mr. *Richard*, *John Vallence*, *Daniel Mac-Mitchel*, *Thomas Campbell*, *John Moodie*, *Patrick Gamle*, *James Stewart*, and many others their Complices; and by their Unexampled and Sacrilegious Excommunicating of Us, Our Deareſt Brother, and Our Chief Miniſters and Officers by the foreſaid Mr. *Donald Cargill*, at a Numerous Field-Conventicle at the *Torwood* in *Sterling-Shire*, in the Month of *October* laſt: Which Impious Mock-Sentence of Excommunication they cauſed to be affixed upon ſome Publick Places in Our City of *Edenburgh*, which is clearly proved by the Depoſitions of many of their Aſſociates, and the Judicial Confeſſions of ſome of their Ring-leaders before Our Privy-Council, to have been pronounced by the ſaid *Cargill* the Day and Place aforeſaid; and by which Mock-Excommunication, and the foreſaid Declaration of War at *Sanchar*, they endeavour to juſtifie the Lawfulneſs of Killing Us, and Our Faithful Miniſters and Subjects, (the Originals of all which Papers herein mentioned do lie in the Hands of the Clerks of Our Privy-Council and Juſtice Court, to be forth-coming for the ſatisfying of all Our good Subjects concerning the Truth of the Premiſes.) Moreover, The Truth and Reality of this Cruel, Bloody, Treaſonable and Horrid Plot and Conſpiracy is further evident by the Declaration and free Confeſſion of *James Skene*, Brother to the late Laird of *Skene*, *Archibald Stewart* in *Borrowſtounneſſe*, and *John Potter* late Servant to the Lord *Cardroſſe*, who openly and in face of Our Privy-Council have avowed and declared their owning of, and adherence unto the Treaſonable Covenant aforeſaid found with Mr. *Donald Cargill*, that Execrable Declaration at *Sanchar*, (which

Bond

Bond of Combination aforeſaid, hath been owned by the ſaid *John Potter* in preſence of Our Privy-Council, and his Subſcription ſubjoyned to it) and that Treaſonable and Impious Excommunication at *Torwood*; and with bare faces aſſert the Lawfulneſs of Killing Us their Soveraign, Our Dear and only Brother, Our Miniſters, Biſhops and Judges; and that it is their Duty to Kill Us and Them, according as they ſhall have Power and Opportunity, and who ſeemed to have met together in Our City of *Edenburgh* on *Thurſday* the 11th of this Inſtant *November*, to conſult with Mr. *Donald Cargill* the beſt Methods for putting the ſaid abominable and helliſh Plot in Execution.

Therefore, and to prevent the imminent danger, to which Our Royal Perſon, Our Dear and only Brother, Our Government, Miniſters and Laws, the Church and Proteſtant Religion are expoſed, by the bold and inceſſant Attempts, and the Bloody Artifices and Contrivances of theſe Villanous and Phanatical Conſpirators; We do hereby with advice of Our Privy Council, Declare all thoſe forenamed Conſpirators and Plotters to be open and notorious Traitors and Rebels againſt Us and Our Authority, (They having been in Arms againſt Us, for which they were declared Traytors by Our Proclamation dated the laſt of *June* 1680.) Impowering and Requiring all Our Good Subjects to Treat them as ſuch. And We do hereby Require and Command all Our Loving Subjects, as they will be anſwerable to Us on their Allegiance, to do their utmoſt diligence to diſcover and ſearch out this Phanatical and Sanguinary Plot to the bottom, and to ſeize and apprehend thoſe Traytors, Conſpirators and Plotters, and all their Treacherous Aſ-

ſociates and Accomplices; particularly ſuch of them as are named and mentioned in this and in Our foreſaid Proclamation of the laſt of *June* 1680. and to Impriſon them in the next convenient Priſon, that they may be brought to condign and exemplary Puniſhment, according to the Preſcript of Our Laws, and demerit of their prodigious and unparallel'd Treaſons. And We further Require and Command all Our Sheriffs, Stewards, Bailiffs of Regalities, and Magiſtrates of Burghs, and other Miniſters of the Law where the ſaid Traitors and Conſpirators uſe to haunt or reſort, to employ their utmoſt Power and Vigilance in their reſpective Juriſdictions for ſearching, ſeizing, and apprehending of them, that they may be preſented to Juſtice: And if in ſeizing and apprehending the foreſaid Traytors and Conſpirators, and their Aſſociates and Accomplices, (they reſiſting or refuſing to be taken) any of Our ſaid Magiſtrates or others Our good Subjects ſhall happen to kill or mutilate them, or any of them; We do hereby declare, That they, nor none aſſiſting them, ſhall ever be called in queſtion, or purſued Civilly or Criminally therefore in time coming; but that theſe Preſents ſhall be as ſufficient for their Exoneration as if they had Our ſpecial Pardon and Remiſſion, and that their doing thereof ſhall be reputed good and acceptable Service done to Us. And for the better Incouragement of ſuch as ſhall apprehend, and bring in the ſaid Traytors and Conſpirators dead or alive, The Apprehender of Mr. *Donald Cargill* ſhall have as a Reward the Sum of Five Thouſand Merks; and for Mr. *Thomas Douglas* the Sum of Three Thouſand Merks; and for each one of the reſt of the ſaid Conſpirators and Plotters the Sum of One Thouſand Merks inſtantly paid to them by the Lords Commiſ-

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ſioners of Our Treaſury. And We Ordain theſe Preſents to be Printed, and Publiſhed at the Market-Croſs of *Edenburgh*, and remanent Head-Burghs of this Our Kingdom. And alſo We Ordain the ſeveral Sheriffs and Stewards, *&c.* to cauſe make Intimation hereof at the ſeveral Paroch Kirks of the Kingdom after Divine Worſhip, that none pretend Ignorance.

Given under Our Signet at *Edenburgh*, the 22th day of *November*, 1680. and of Our Reign the 32th Year.

Per actum Dominorum Secreti Concilii.

Will. Paterſon Cl. Sti. Concilii.

God ſave the King.

FINIS.